FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chicopee Police Department seeking to implement FUSUS Real Time Crime Center

CHICOPEE, MA – Mayor John Vieau has requested the Chicopee City Council fund the Chicopee Police Department request to purchase and implement the FUSUS Real Time Crime Center. Chicopee would be the first Massachusetts community to implement this system designed to make policing more efficient and effective for Police Departments and Officers. The FUSUS system is currently used in: Hartford, CT; Atlanta, GA; Milwaukee, WI; San Gabriel, CA; Winston-Salem, NC; Gary, IN; Arlington, TX; and many other communities.

Keeping neighborhoods safe has always involved eyes on the streets. Safer neighborhoods are ones where individuals are present and see what is happening. That's why Crime Watches and similar activities are successful, people do not commit crimes when they are being watched. Also, Police have been interviewing eyewitnesses and gathering information, using that information to solve crimes. The camera footage obtained and studies in the Boston Marathon Bombing led to the apprehension and convictions of individuals. If it wasn't for businesses and individuals providing camera videos many crimes would take years to solve. Law enforcement working with the community helps solve crimes and ensure quality police work is performed.

Chief Patrick Major and Deputy Chief Eric Watson are seeking to bring to Chicopee a Crime Center operation which will enhance situational awareness and investigative capabilities. Chief Major stated, "The FUSUS Crime Center will bring together law enforcement, the community, and technology for a holistic approach to public safety." He added, "This investment is a crucial step toward ensuring the highest level of public safety, improving the effectiveness of our law enforcement, and maintaining the trust and confidence of our residents."

The FUSUS Crime Center will allow local businesses and residents to integrate their camera systems into a central location providing real time information to our officers. The system would provide a framework for a "Next Gen Neighborhood Watch Program" in which residents and business owners can participate. The FUSUS Real Time Crime Center in the Cloud platform will be the foundation for the Chicopee Police Department's innovative "Next Gen" Neighborhood Watch Program. Residents and business owners will be provided with the opportunity to partner with the Police Department and help contribute to the safety and security of Chicopee. Additionally, community members will have the ability to anonymously submit multi-media tips to the Police Department and the Police Department will have the ability to keep the community up to date with relevant information via instantaneous text alerts to an opt-in list of community member's cell phones.

Such information will provide the Chicopee Police Department with the ability to respond quickly to crimes in progress or to those which have recently occurred. This technology will be integrated into our license plate reader database, and other systems to allow officers access to information and tools. The tools are accessible from a laptop, desktop, cruiser's laptop, and officer's smartphone. Deputy Chief Watson stated, "The FUSUS system will enable the Chicopee Police Department to operate more efficiently, effectively, with improved operational intelligence, and with a proactive emphasis on officer, citizen, and community safety."

Mayor Vieau stated, "We are striving to improve the safety of our community, and this system will strengthen our efforts to improve the safety of our neighborhoods." "Modern policing is advancing through the use of technology and tools, gaining more trust from our residents through successful investigations and improved response times," he added.

In conclusion, the Mayor requests the City Council approve the appropriation of $150,000 to purchase and implement the FUSUS system.



For More Information on FUSUS access their website, www.fusus.com

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